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PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Patent Application

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Case 47-2

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Examiner Courtney D Fields

Title Method And Apparatus For Identification Tagging Documents
In A Computer System

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SIR:

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

This Request for Reconsideration is being submitted in connection with the above-referenced patent application and in response to the Office Action dated July 14, 2006 in connection therewith. In the instant application, claims 1-20 are pending. In the instant Office Action, claims 1-20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Mi et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 6,418,472). Applicants respectfully traverse.

The present invention is directed to a method and apparatus for the tracing of computer documents. Specifically, in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the invention, computer documents are tagged with an identification tag that is a value which results from performing a cryptographic function on the *hash of the document* and a unique processor identifier. Independent method claim 1, for example, explicitly recites the step of "calculating *a function of a document*," as